

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(Currently amended)** A method for producing an isolated HEI-193 immortalized human schwannoma cell line actively expressing E6 and E7 genes of human papillomavirus 16, deposited as ATCC Accession # PTA-4544, the method, comprising:

- a) providing a primary cell culture of human vestibular schwannoma cells comprising a mutant neurofibromatosis 2 (NF2) gene;
- b) introducing a retroviral vector polynucleotide comprising human papillomavirus (HPV) E6 and E7 an exogenous immortalizing gene genes into said cells;
- c) selecting for immortalized cells that express the exogenous immortalizing gene have the mutant NF2 gene and retain phenotypic properties of schwannoma cells, said phenotypic properties comprising rapid growth, and antigen-positive for S100, and the mutant NF2 gene.

2.-13. **(Cancelled)**

14. **(Currently amended)** An isolated HEI-193 immortalized human schwannoma cell line actively expressing the E6 and E7 genes of human papilloma virus 16 deposited as ATCC Accession # PTA-4544, wherein said cell line has a mutant NF2 gene and the phenotypic characteristics comprising rapid growth, and antigen-positive for S100.

15. **(Currently amended)** A method for determining an effect of a pharmacological agent on the isolated HEI-193 human schwannoma cell line of Claim 9, 12 or 14, said method comprising:

- a) contacting said cell line with said pharmacological agent; and
- b) determining the effect of said pharmacological agent on said cell line.

16. **(Original)** The method of claim 15, wherein the effect is a change in cell growth.

17. **(Original)** The method of claim 15, wherein the effect is a change in a phenotypic characteristic of the cell line.

18. **(Original)** The method of claim 17, wherein the change is an increase or decrease in expression of a cellular gene.

19. **(Original)** The method of claim 18, wherein the cellular gene expresses a gene product selected from the group consisting of: cell cycle proteins, transcription factors, signaling molecules, cytokines, growth factors, and growth factor receptors.

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20. **(Original)** The method of claim 15, wherein the pharmacological agent is selected from the group consisting of chemicals, drugs, hormones, cytokines, and growth factors.

21. **(Original)** The method of claim 15, wherein said effect is selected from the group consisting of: genotoxicity, DNA adduct formation, mutagenicity, cell transformation and/or cytotoxicity, programmed cell death, chromosomal damage, de-myelination, and remyelination.

22.-27. **(Cancelled)**